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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Owyhee Hydro LLC

Project No. 14786-000

NOTICE OF PRELIMINARY PERMIT APPLICATION ACCEPTED FOR FILING
AND SOLICITING COMMENTS, MOTIONS TO INTERVENE, AND COMPETING
APPLICATIONS

On June 30, 2016, Owyhee Hydro LLC filed a revised application for a preliminary permit, pursuant to section 4(f) of the Federal Power Act (FPA), proposing to study the feasibility of the Owyhee Pumped Storage Project (Owyhee Project or project) to be located on Lake Owyhee near Adrian in Malheur County, Oregon. The sole purpose of a preliminary permit, if issued, is to grant the permit holder priority to file a license application during the permit term. A preliminary permit does not authorize the permit holder to perform any land-disturbing activities or otherwise enter upon lands or waters owned by others without the owners' express permission.

The proposed project would consist of the following: (1) a new 1,200-foot-long zoned earth and rockfill or concrete-face rockfill dam forming a lined upper reservoir with a surface area of 109 acres and a storage capacity of 4,035 acre-feet at a maximum surface elevation of 4,320 feet mean sea level (msl); (2) an existing 833 foot-long concrete arch dam forming the existing Lake Owyhee (lower reservoir) with a surface area of 13,900 acres and a storage capacity of 1,120,000 acre-feet at a maximum surface elevation of 2,650 msl; (3) a new 14,100 foot-long conduit connecting the upper and lower reservoirs consisting of a 2,200 foot-long, 17.1 foot-diameter concrete lined low-pressure tunnel, a 7,100 foot-long, 17.1 foot-diameter concrete and steel-lined pressure shaft, and a 4,800-foot-long, 20.5 foot-diameter concrete-lined tailrace; (4) a new 80 feet long by 280 feet wide by 120 feet high powerhouse containing four reversible pump-turbine units rated at 125 megawatts (MW) each for a total capacity of 500 MW; (5) either 2.6 or 8 miles of 500-kilovolt transmission line interconnecting with the Boardman-Hemingway Line, depending on design of infrastructure; and (6) appurtenant facilities. The estimated annual generation of the Owyhee Project would be 1,533,000 megawatt-hours.

Applicant Contact: Mr. Matthew Shapiro, CEO, Gridflex Energy, LLC, 1210 W. Franklin St., Ste. 2, Boise, Idaho 83702; phone: (208) 246-9925.

FERC Contact: Julia Kolberg; phone: (202) 502-8261.

Deadline for filing comments, motions to intervene, competing applications (without notices of intent), or notices of intent to file competing applications: 60 days from the issuance of this notice. Competing applications and notices of intent must meet the requirements of 18 CFR 4.36.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file comments, motions to intervene, notices of intent, and competing applications using the Commission's eFiling system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/ecomment.asp>. You must include your name and contact information at the end of your comments. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, (866) 208-3676 (toll free), or (202) 502-8659 (TTY). In lieu of electronic filing, please send a paper copy to: Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20426. The first page of any filing should include docket number P-14786-000.

More information about this project, including a copy of the application, can be viewed or printed on the "eLibrary" link of Commission's website at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/elibrary.asp>. Enter the docket number (P-14768) in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

Dated: July 1, 2016.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

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